

**Amendments to the Claims/Listing of Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) An ~~eukaryotic~~ expression vector comprising a recombinant nucleic acid sequence encoding thiaminase I from *N. gruberi*, said recombinant nucleic acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.

11-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously presented) A vector comprising a recombinant nucleic acid sequence encoding thiaminase I from *N. gruberi*, said recombinant nucleic acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.

34-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously presented) An isolated bacterium transfected with a vector, said bacterium selected from the group consisting of avirulent *C. sporogenes*, avirulent *C. beijerinckii*, and attenuated, non-pathogenic *S. typhimurium*, said vector comprising a recombinant nucleic acid sequence encoding thiaminase I from *N. gruberi* as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3, and said recombinant nucleic acid sequence operably linked to a promoter.

37. (Previously presented) The bacterium of claim 36, wherein said bacterium is avirulent *C. sporogenes*.

38. (Previously presented) The bacterium of claim 36, wherein said bacterium is avirulent *C. beijerinckii*.

39. (Previously presented) The bacterium of claim 36, wherein said bacterium is attenuated, non-pathogenic *S. typhimurium*.

40. (Cancelled).